



Safety On The Line



A service of the NASA/KSC Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate – October 2009

“Just because you always did it that way, doesn't make it right!”

What is meant by having a “Healthy Safety Culture”?

NASA's five components of a Healthy Safety Culture

Reporting Culture: We report our concerns. Identification of hazards or safety concerns is encouraged, including a system that's easy to use.

Just Culture: We have a sense of fairness. Balances the need for discipline when warranted, with rewards when earned.

Flexible Culture: We change to meet new demands. The organization effectively balances and adapts to changing demands while managing complex technologies and maintaining productivity.

Learning Culture: We learn from our successes and mistakes. Collecting, assessing, and sharing from experience is a priority.

Engaged Culture: Everyone does their part. All members regardless of status or occupation are involved and actively participate in safely accomplishing the mission.

The key is to have leaders and employees who demonstrate they value safety by “walking the talk.”

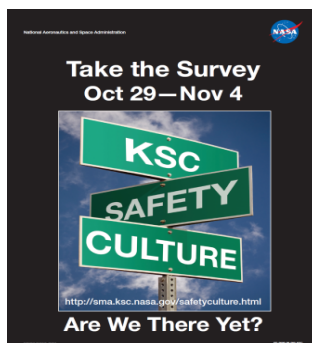
KSC Safety Culture Survey

KSC is conducting a Safety Culture Survey from October 29 through November 4, 2009. The survey is open to all NASA employees and contractors are also encouraged to participate. Starting on the 29th, employees can access the survey from the link in the notification email or at <http://sma.ksc.nasa.gov/safetyculture.html>.

This survey will provide feedback to the KSC Center Director on the KSC Safety Culture with the goal of preventing workplace incidents and injuries.

Points of contact for the survey are:

- Darcy Miller, SA-B, 861-1846
- Tom Dwyer, SA-E2, 867-9366
- Marty Parker, BA-E, 867-6824



Notes and Additional Resources

- 1: Excerpt from EHS Today Online Magazine. May1, 2009
<http://ehstoday.com/safety/news/knives-dangers-workplace-3993/>
- 2: Information from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Consumer Product Safety Commission. <http://cdc.gov/family/halloween/>
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/100.html>

Using Knives and Box Cutters ¹

The most common cause of accidents related to box cutters occurs when an employee uses a standard knife and is distracted or slips while cutting the top of a box and strikes a forearm or thigh with the exposed blade. Extreme caution must be used at all times when using knives or box cutters. Always remember to:

- Have your body in a balanced position.
- Turn the item to be cut so that you are cutting away from the body.
- Look at the cut line — never look away or become distracted by talking with someone.
- Place your other hand on the opposite side of the case away from the cutting line.



Halloween Safety ²



Children should:

- Use flashlights and wear bright, reflective, and flame retardant clothing.
- Only cross streets with an adult (use crosswalks when available). Do not cross through yards, and avoid moving between parked cars.
- Use face paint, or wear masks that fit well and do not obscure sight or hearing.
- To reduce the potential for tripping, do not wear baggy, loose costumes or oversized shoes.
- Only go to well-lit houses, and remain on porches. Never enter a stranger's house.
- Use only flexible toy knives, swords, or other costume props that are not rigid or sharp.

Parents and adults should:

- Drive slowly watching for children in the street, on medians, and exiting driveways / alleyways.
- Establish a curfew for older youths.
- Have name and address attached to costumes.
- Ensure children know their phone number.
- Inspect all items before children eat them.
- Prepare homes for trick-or-treaters by clearing porches, lawns, and walkways.
- When carving pumpkins, use stable, flat surfaces, draw and follow patterns on the outside of the pumpkin instead of freehand carving, and use tools with dull serrations designed for pumpkin carving.



Do you have questions, comments, or an article you would like to submit?
Contact Brian Gloade at 867-9436, fax number 867-1120, mail code SA-E/MEI or e-mail.
Safety on the Line is also on the Web at <http://sotl.ksc.nasa.gov>.